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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER	
MILIA, MARK R	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2625	

DATE MAILED: 09/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/974,838	KITAZAWA, TOSHIO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mark R. Milia	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *16 June 2006*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☒ Claim(s) *15-19* is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-14* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment was received on 6/16/06 and has been entered and made of record. Currently, claims 1-19 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the current amendments to the claims and therefore a new ground(s) of rejection will be made. Claims 15-19 will be addressed in the following rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

4. Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Richter (US 6678068) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5706411 to McCormick et al. and further in view of Canon's imageRUNNER 5000 series user's guide.

Regarding claims 1 and 14, Richter discloses a printing apparatus comprising: image data input means for receiving input data (see Figs. 4 and 6, column 5 lines 7-9,

and column 7 lines 40-42), image data processing means for processing the image data and drawing the image data in an image memory unit (see Figs. 4 and 6, column 7 lines 58-62, and column 8 lines 1-4), printing means for forming an image on a transfer sheet using the image data drawn in the image memory unit (see Figs. 4 and 6, column 5 lines 7-9, column 6 lines 9-29, column 7 lines 33-39, and column 8 lines 1-3), and display means for displaying, either dynamically or successively, which different processes the image data is undergoing at any given moment, beginning with image data reception and ending with image data printing, the display means comprising a plurality of display components corresponding to the different processes and that are displayed simultaneously on a display portion (see Figs. 7-20, and 26-27, column 11 lines 46-58, column 10 line 48-column 11 line 6, and column 20 line 36-column 21 line 13, reference shows that a display is used to display messages concerning the state of an image file such as "spooling", :waiting to rip", "ripping", "waiting to print", and "printing" and that a display of queues can be viewed to show which queue image data is currently in, which sufficiently cover at any given moment which process image data is undergoing).

Richter does not disclose expressly the display means comprising a plurality of different display components successively indicating the different processes and wherein the display is part of a printing apparatus.

McCormick discloses the display means comprising a plurality of different display components successively indicating the different processes being displayed simultaneously on a display portion (see Fig. 6 and column 5 line 62-column 6 line 9,

reference shows a bitmap of a printer and a computing device that are animated to depict the progression of printing along with the status of the pages that make up the entire print job, such as pages ready for printing and pages being printed, all of which is shown simultaneously and dynamically, which is analogous to the claim limitation).

Canon's imageRUNNER 5000 series user's guide discloses wherein the display is part of a printing apparatus and the display can be used to ascertain the status of image data that is to be spooled and printed (see pages 5-13 to 5-27, particularly pages 5-13, 5-14, 5-18, and 5-22).

Richter, McCormick, & Canon's imageRUNNER 5000 series user's guide are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, printing using an output peripheral device.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the plurality of different display components successively indicating the different processes being displayed simultaneously on a display portion, as described by McCormick and the display being part of the printing apparatus to view the different processes the image data is undergoing, as shown by Canon's imageRUNNER 5000 series user's guide, with the system of Richter.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to provide easier accessibility to the status of image data by allowing a user to access the information from the printing device in addition to accessing this information for the user's workstation or print server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Canon's imageRUNNER 5000 series user's guide and McCormick with Richter to obtain the invention as specified in claims 1 and 14.

Regarding claim 2, Richter further discloses wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a spooling display component that indicates dynamically that the image data is in the process of being received by the printing apparatus (see column 11 lines 51-54).

Regarding claim 3, Richter further discloses wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a drawing display component that indicates dynamically that the image data is in the process of being drawn in the image memory unit of the printing apparatus (see Fig. 12, column 7 lines 58-62, column 8 lines 1-4, and column 11 lines 51-54, reference shows a display message that refers to the ripping process which is analogous to the drawing process of the claim and therefore is anticipated by the reference).

Regarding claim 4, Richter further discloses wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a printing display component that indicates dynamically that the image data is in the process of being printed by the printing apparatus (see column 11 lines 51-54).

Regarding claim 5, Richter further discloses wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a spool data display component that indicates successively an amount of unprocessed image data not yet drawn in the

image memory unit from among that image data which has been received by the printing apparatus (see Figs. 26 and 27 and column 20 lines 46-49).

Regarding claim 6, Richter further discloses wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a spool data display component that displays the amount of unprocessed image data on a per-print-job basis (see Figs. 26 and 27 and column 20 lines 46-49).

Regarding claim 7, Richter further discloses wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a drawing page display component that displays pages of image data in the process of being drawn in the image memory component of the printing apparatus (see Fig. 29 and column 21 lines 51-61).

Regarding claim 8, Richter further discloses wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a printed page display component that displays pages of image data in the process of being printed by the printing apparatus (see Fig. 29 and column 8 lines 8-10 and 51-61).

Regarding claim 9, Richter further discloses wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a saved job display component that displays a list of print jobs stored in the image memory component of the printing apparatus (see column 8 lines 1-4).

Regarding claim 10, Richter further discloses a selectable plurality of supply trays for containing transfer sheets ready to be sent to the printing means, wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a supply tray

display component that indicates a selected one of the supply trays (see Fig. 15 and column 12 lines 27-38).

Regarding claim 11, Richter further discloses a selectable plurality of exit trays for receiving printed transfer sheets exited from the printing means, wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components an exit tray display component that indicates a selected one of the exit trays (see Fig. 17 and column 12 lines 56-64).

Regarding claim 12, Richter further discloses wherein the display means displays a graphic image message that indicates which process the image data is undergoing at any given moment, beginning with image data reception and ending with image data printing (see Fig. 12 and column 11 lines 46-58).

Regarding claim 13, Richter further discloses wherein the display means displays a text message that indicates which process the image data is undergoing at any given moment, beginning with image data reception and ending with image data printing (see Fig. 12 and column 11 lines 46-58).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 15-19 are allowed.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

It would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine a display unit displaying, either dynamically or successively, which different processes the image data is undergoing at any given moment, beginning with image data reception and ending with image data printing, the display means comprising a plurality of different display components successively indicating the different processes from image data reception to data printing, and that are displayed simultaneously on a display portion, the display components simultaneously displayed including: a spooling display component that indicates dynamically that the image data is in the process of being received by the printing apparatus, a drawing display component that indicates dynamically that the image data is in the process of being drawn in the image memory unit of the printing apparatus, a printing display component that indicates dynamically that the image data is in the process of being printed by the printing apparatus, a first spool data display component that indicates successively an amount of unprocessed image data not yet drawn in the image memory unit from among that image data which has been received by the printing apparatus, a second spool data display component that displays the amount of unprocessed image data on a per-print-job basis, a drawing page display component that displays pages of image data in the process of being drawn in the image memory component of the printing apparatus, a printed page display component that displays pages of image data in the process of being printed by the printing apparatus, and a saved job display component that displays a list of print jobs stored in the image

memory component of the printing apparatus, with the other limitations set forth in the claims.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. To further show the state of the art refer to the attached Notice of References Cited.

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark R. Milia whose telephone number is (571) 272-7408. The examiner can normally be reached M-F 8:00am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler M. Lamb can be reached at (571) 272-7406. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Mark R. Milia
Examiner
Art Unit 2625

MRM

JOSEPH R. POKRZYWA
PRIMARY EXAMINER